

SCS SB 621 -- REMOVAL OF NUISANCE

SPONSOR: Loudon (St. Onge)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 13 to 0.

This substitute makes property owners in the City of Hazelwood liable for the removal of derelict vehicles if they are declared a nuisance. To declare the derelict vehicles a nuisance, the governing body must give proper notice and conduct a public hearing. At the hearing, the governing body may declare the vehicles to be a public nuisance and order them abated within five days. If the nuisance is not abated within the five days, the governing body may have the nuisance abated and the cost of removal may be billed on a special tax bill to be collected by the collector with other taxes assessed against the property.

The substitute does not apply to agricultural property owners, property containing any licensed vehicle service or repair facility, or property in which the derelict vehicle is enclosed in a permanent structure designed for vehicle storage.

The provisions of the substitute terminate August 28, 2004.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the substitute will allow the city to clean up old vehicles that are a hazard in the city. The legislation will expire after one year.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Loudon.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Steve Bauer, Legislative Analyst